

In May of 1907, Sprinklerfitting tradesmen in the Detroit area came together in their first effort to organize. They were rewarded for their efforts with a charter by the United Association of Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Steamfitters of the U.S. and Canada—U.A.—as Local No. 358. Initial optimism quickly dimmed, as the Local faced opposition from surrounding contractors and companies. Disbanding and reorganizing twice, the Local re-emerged as Local No. 669 in 1915 and was granted a new charter by the U.A. It would operate under this charter for another 32 years.

Within its first 7 years of formation, leaders from Local No. 669 had successfully argued for 2 consecutive years of wage increases and the addition of a local U.A. auxiliary office location to better serve the craftsmen of the region. This sense of unity was in no small part responsible for helping the local weather the economic devastation of America's Great Depression, which stifled progress across the country's economy for nearly a decade. Membership in Local No. 669 protected the wages and working conditions of sprinklerfitters in Detroit throughout the economic crisis.

Passage of the New Deal legislation by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt provided work opportunities in the form of public projects, supporting the sprinklerfitters of Local No. 669. In 1941, as the United States formally announced their entrance into the Second World War, factories in Detroit quickly pivoted to join the efforts turning the city into the "biggest war boomtown of them all." Among the projects undertaken by Local No. 669 in this time was the outfitting of the Ford Willow Run Bomber Plant in Ypsilanti. In 1947, Local No. 669 once again reorganized, taking on the charter of Local No. 704 with jurisdiction over sprinklerfitting work in Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland Counties, with nearby Washtenaw joining a decade later. Local No. 704 continued to enjoy positive growth throughout the 1950s and 1960s, increasing their number of journeymen and apprentices, along with increased benefits and wages.

This progress would begin to falter as the local headed into the 1970s and companies began moving factories to "right to work states," decreasing one of their core contract bases. Despite the auto flight, members of Local No. 704 remained well employed and worked on a variety of local projects, including the Pontiac Silverdome and Detroit's Joe Louis Arena and Renaissance Center. Although they faced low employment in the first half of the decade, by the end of the 1980s, Local No. 704 had helped build, along with many other projects, the Detroit Hamtramck Assembly Plant, the Patrick V. McNamara Federal Building, the Chrysler World Head Quarters and Technological Center, the Palace of Auburn Hills and would close out the decade with a newly negotiated contract with

the National Fire and Sprinkler Association, formerly known as the U.A.

Demand for work remained strong throughout the 1990s, and Local No. 704 entered the new millennium with a robust membership able to meet the demands of the growth of local automakers and universities. Between 2000 and 2007, Local No. 704 assisted in the construction of the General Motors Assembly Center, the north terminal of the Detroit airport, Detroit's MGM Grand and Greektown Casinos, and the Henry Ford Hospital in West Bloomfield. The Great Recession of 2008 stalled much employment in the area for a number of years, bringing membership in Local No. 704 down by nearly half. However, as work slowly started to resume in 2011 and 2012, Local No. 704 was able to rely on its history of strong organization skills to successfully secure jobs using the Local's targeted fund. In 2012 alone, the Local saw a return of nearly \$6 for every \$1 spent by the fund.

By 2015, Local No. 704 had emerged into a period of success carrying them easily to their 100th year anniversary in 2021. In these 6 years, members of the Local had a hand in many major projects in the area, including the construction of a new Amazon facility and the renovation of the historic David Whitney Building in Detroit. The opening of a new state-of-the-art training center and headquarters for the sprinklerfitters of Local No. 704 helped close out the decade.

U.A. Sprinklerfitters Local No. 704 has weathered many obstacles but has remained strong and enters their 101st year well positioned for continued success. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing their longevity, their skilled membership, and the immensely positive impact they have made on the communities of southeast Michigan.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 28, 2022, during the adjournment of the Senate,

received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 270. An act to amend the Act entitled "Act to provide for the establishment of the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in the State of Kansas, and for other purposes" to provide for inclusion of additional related sites in the National Park System, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the enrolled bill was signed on May 2, 2022, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3522. An act to provide enhanced authority for the President to enter into agreements with the Government of Ukraine to lend or lease defense articles to that Government to protect civilian populations in Ukraine from Russian military invasion, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the Secretary of the Senate, on May 2, 2022, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 3059. An act to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2021, the enrolled bill was signed on May 2, 2022, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3770. A communication from the President and Chair of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's fiscal year 2021 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3771. A communication from the Senior Official Performing the Duties of Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Performance Plan for fiscal years 2021-2023, and the Annual Performance Report for fiscal years 2021-2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-3772. A communication from the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's fiscal year 2021 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.